

I. 0.9282



### **Dr. O. Fischer Returns From European Journey**

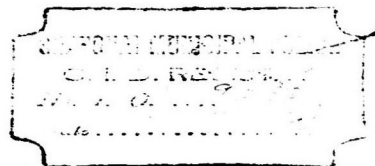
Dr. O. Fischer, well-known Shanghai attorney and partner of the legal firm of Musso, Fischer and Wilhelm, has returned to Shanghai after an absence of more than three months. He arrived in the city two days ago, coming from the North, having made the return trip to China via Siberia.

The attorney left Shanghai early in September and while away visited most of the capitals of Europe in connection with his firm's business. He spent considerable time in Italy.

While in Rome, Dr. Fischer was received by Count Ciano, now Italian Foreign Minister and formerly Minister of China. He also was met by Comm. Boscarilli, another former Italian Minister to China, who is now Il Duce's representative in Greece.

*Chen*

CONFIDENTIAL  
DRAWER



THE NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS, FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 1934

Dr. O. Fischer of Messrs. Musso, Fischer & Wilhelm, returned yesterday in the ss. Dairen Maru from Dairen after a short business trip to Europe. Dr. Fischer left here at the end of August going to Singapore in an Italian vessel and then flying home by the Royal Dutch Airmail completing 8,000 miles in six days. Dr. Fischer returned via the U.S.S.R. and Siberia.

Dr. S. A. &

Information.

003. 10/11

File  
M

CONFIDENTIAL  
DRAWER

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE  
C. I. D. REGISTRY  
No. O.....  
to.....

November 8 33.

My dear Steptoe,

I have to inform you that Dr. Oskar Fischer  
of Messrs. Musso, Fischer and Wilhelm, returned to  
Shanghai from Venice by the s.s. "Conte Verde"  
on November 6, 1933. He was accompanied by Mrs.  
Renee Fischer.

Yours sincerely,

*MS*

H.N. Steptoe, Esq.,  
British Consulate-General.

*File*  
*MS*

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

REPORT

Special Branch

Date November 7, 1933.

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE

File No.

C. I. D. REGISTRY

No. I. O.

Date

Subject (in full) Dr. O. Fischer returns to Shanghai.

Made by D.S. Pitts.

Forwarded by

Dr. Oskar Fischer of the legal firm of Messrs. Musso, Fischer and Wilhelm, Szechuen Road returned to Shanghai from Venice on November 6, 1933 travelling as a passenger on board the s.s. "Conte Verde."

Dr. Fischer gave the following details when inscribing the 'Aliens' Passport Examination Form:

Name .....Oskar Fischer.

Age .....48

Nationality.....Italian.

Birthplace.....Trieste

Domicile.....69 Route Vallon

Profession.....Lawyer

Passport.....A. 351785 issued on June 17, 1931 at local Italian Consulate-General.

He was accompanied by Mrs. Henge Fischer on this trip.

Officer i/c Special Branch.

S Mr Yao, Please send confidential note Wma. S conveying the above information

NOV 7 1933

Special Branch - S.2.

June 9, 1933.

Movements of Dr. O. Fischer.

Dr. O. Fischer, suspected Soviet <sup>*sympathiser*</sup> Agent,  
left Shanghai for Italy on May 12, 1933,  
travelling on the s.s. "Conte Verde."

*J. A. Piers*

*D. S.*

*07-93*

*Informant*

*DBR 9/6*

*Re Barton informed of departure - see file S.2 919.*

Copy for file 100-9282.

CONFIDENTIAL  
DRAWER

S. 2. Special Branch.  
March 20, 1933.

Letters from Willi Muenzenberg addressed to Harold R. Isaacs; Dr. Fischer and Dr. Wilhelm.

Attached herewith are photographic copies of three letters from Willi Muenzenberg addressed to Harold Isaacs, Dr. Fischer and Dr. Wilhelm, the originals of which were enclosed in an envelope addressed to Harold Isaacs. The contents of these missives are, briefly, as follows :-

- (1) Letter in English dated Paris January 20, 1933, from Willi Muenzenberg, (President ?) of the "Comite International pour la Defense de Paul et Gertrud Ruegg", addressed to Harold Isaacs, Shanghai. The writer thanks Isaacs for his active interest in the Ruegg (Moulens) case and informs him that a new hunger-strike campaign has been started. Muenzenberg also states he encloses copies of specially addressed letters to Dr. Fischer and Dr. Wilhelm respectively regarding a certain sum of money retained by them. He concludes by stating that Chinese officials in Europe spread all kinds of rumours concerning the excellent conditions prevailing in Chinese prisons, and that in this connection the "Gertrud and Paul Ruegg Defence Committee" were publishing a report of a Chinese who had fled from the "hell" of Chinese prisons.
- (2) Letter in German dated January 16, 1933 from the President (Willi Muenzenberg ?) addressed to Dr. Fischer requesting information as to how the sum of G\$1,500, which had been deposited in the American Oriental Bank by Ruegg (Moulens), had been expended.
- (3) Letter in German dated January 16, 1933 from the President (Willi Muenzenberg ?) addressed to Dr. Wilhelm, requesting information as to how a sum of money put to his disposal by Mrs. Ruegg (Vandercruyssen) had been disposed.

These photographic copies were received by the Municipal Police from the French Police.

COMITE INTERNATIONAL  
pour la  
Defense de Paul et Gertrud Ruegg  
- - -

Paris, le 20/1/33.

FRANCE:

Rene Arcos  
Henri Barbusse  
Victor Marqueritte  
Henri Poulaille  
Romain Rolland  
Leon Werth

Mr.

Harold Isaacs  
Shanghai

Dear friend,

I thank you for your letter of the 5th December. Our Committee has taken notice with the greatest interest of your report about the latest news in the Ruegg case. We have started a new campaign of the hunger strike. Please inform hereabout the respective members of the Shanghai Committee.

I have written special letters to Dr. Fischer and Dr. Wilhelm about the sums retained, copies of which I enclose. A special delegation has been sent to Mr. Wellington Koo at Geneva. As soon as I get his answer, I immediately shall transfer it to you.

The Chinese officials in Europe spread all kinds of rumors about excellent conditions in Chinese prisons. It will be an easy task for you, through your newspapers show all the lies of their declarations. We are publishing in the next days a report of a Chinese friend who fled from the hell of Chinese prisons.

With best greetings,

Yours

Willi Muenzenberg.

Angleterre:

Jean Beauchamp  
Reginald Bridgman  
Mc Govern M.P.  
Kirchwood M.P.  
Maxton M.P.  
Wallhead M.P.

Allemagne:

Bert Brecht  
Prof. Albert Einstein  
Lion Feuchtwanger  
Prof. Alfons Goldschmidt  
Ludwig Renn  
Freiherr von Schonaich  
Paul Wegener

Etats-Unis:

Forrest Bailey  
Floyd Dell  
Theodore Dreiser  
Sinclair Lewis  
John Dos Passos  
Oswald Garrison Villard.

Espagne:

Josquin Arderius  
Mariano Benlirery Tuero  
Alicio Garcitoral  
Antonio de Miguel

2 enclosures



Translation from German

16/1/33

To Dr. Fischer

Shanghai

Sir,

As I have been informed by our representative, Mr. Vincent, who returned to Europe, Mr. Ruegg, at the time of his arrest, transferred to Dr. Wilhelm the sum of G.\$1500.00 which was deposited in the American Oriental Bank. Will you please let me know for what purposes this sum was expended. I have been informed from another source that this sum was detained by the authorities concerned and was recently distributed among the judges, police and guards. If there was no court order for the confiscation of the above sum, this must be considered a sheer robbery on the part of the Chinese authorities, and I request you to lodge a strong protest against this action on behalf of our Defence Committee.

Mr. Ruegg, I am informed, signed an order in the beginning of December, according to which the sum of approximately G.\$1500.00 was transferred in favour of the Defence Committee. I should be very much obliged to you, if you would furnish me with information on this subject.

Please hand the enclosed letter to Dr. Wilhelm, your partner.

I am, Sir, etc.

President.

1 letter enclosed.

Translation from German

16/1/33

To Dr. Wilhelm,  
c/o Musso, Fisher and Wilhelm.

Shanghai.

Sir,

Mrs. Gertrud Ruegg (Vanderweyden) put at your disposal a certain sum, the exact amount of which we do not know, for the maintenance of her son Jimmy, who is under the care of Mrs. Holz. We take the opportunity of expressing to you our thanks for the pains you have taken in making arrangements for the little Jimmy, and we request you to let us know, as soon as possible, the amount of the sum which was put at your disposal, so that we might be able to take steps to arrange for a further remittance, should the sum have become exhausted.

I am, Sir, etc..

President.

**CONFIDENTIAL**

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE
C. I. D. REGISTRY
No. I. O. 9282
Date 25. 6. 29

June 25,

29.

SECRET & CONFIDENTIAL.

Dear Colonel,

Dr. O. S. Fisher.

With reference to your letter of  
May 20, I forward herewith a copy of a C.I.D.  
Report on the subject of Dr. O.S. Fisher.

Yours sincerely,

*Sh.*

Lieut. Col. G.H.R. Halland, O.B.E.,  
North China Command.

# Shanghai Municipal Police.

Foreign Section Station.  
Political Branch.

CONFIDENTIAL.

June 24, 1922. 192

REPORT ON Dr. Selmer S. Fischer.

Made by D. I. Robertson. Forwarded by John Robertson, C.D.I.

Dr. Selmer S. Fischer is 30 years of age and is an Austrian Jew having been born in the province of Tyrol when it was Austrian territory. Arriving in Shanghai about 1911 or 1911 he was employed for some time as a broker with the Austro-Asiatic Trading Coy. On April 10, 1913 he married a French lady and there are two sons of the marriage; Paul aged 15, and George aged 14, both of whom are being educated in Germany. After leaving the Austro-Asiatic Trading Coy. Dr. Fischer was for some time editor of a French newspaper and in the years 1914, 1915 and part of 1916 he was manager of the China Export and Import (dealing in furs etc.) at 112 Szechuen Road. In addition to the latter business he practised as a Barrister-at-Law and signed the Lawyers Roll at the old Mixed Court on June 14, 1916. For one or two years, however, he was not very successful and found great difficulty in maintaining livelihood. In the autumn of 1916 the China Export and Import Coy. went out of business and he opened his own lawyers office at 112 Szechuen Road where, while not too successful he became better known by his capabilities as a lawyer. In 1919 he closed his office to join the law firm of Mr. Russo and was a member of the staff until 1921 when he was admitted into partnership and the firm became known as Russo and Fischer.

During the Great War Dr. Fischer registered as an enemy subject and was known as a notorious pro-German and a helper of German interests ever since the outbreak of hostilities.

Soon after the Great War broke out he tried to register at the French Consulate but was unsuccessful and in February 1919 he

# Shanghai Municipal Police.

Station.

192

REPORT ON

(1)

Made by

Forwarded by

registered at the local Italian Consulate: since the province of Tyrol was ceded to Italy after the war he automatically became an Italian subject.

In his career as a barrister he has been mixed up in one or two shady legal transactions and it may be said that where business is concerned he has no scruples.

In June 1923 it was reported that relations of a very confidential nature existed between the firm of Russo and Fischer and the representative of the Soviet Government in China. At the same time it was also reported that the Soviet Minister in Peking paid Dr. Fischer a large sum for propaganda purposes. The employment of the latter in several case signs by the Soviet to appear in cases arising out of the sale of ships of the Russian Volunteer Fleet was noted as corroborative of the foregoing statement. Also, at the time of the departure of the Soviet authorities, by order of the Hanking authorities, from China in December 1927 Dr. Fischer was most active in looking after Soviet interests and in consequence became known as the "Soviet Lawyer". On June 15, 1928 Dr. Fischer left Shanghai ostensibly on a trip to Europe via Siberia. Information was received however that he left on a diplomatic mission to Moscow to report the result of his negotiations with the Nationalist Government of behalf of the Soviet authorities regarding the possibility of China ports being opened to vessels of the Soviet Mercantile Fleet and if possible to bring about a successful conclusion of the issue. He returned to Shanghai on October 30, 1928.

With reference to that part of the inquiry relative

# Shanghai Municipal Police.

Station.

(3)

192

## REPORT ON

Made by

Forwarded by

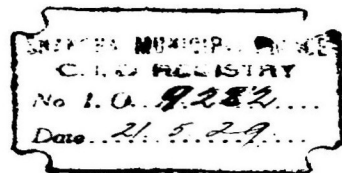
to the possibility of Dr. Fischer being mixed up in Indian  
Sedition in the Far East it is not known that he is in any way  
connected or even interested in Indian matters and this know-  
ledge is more or less corroborated in the fact that in the  
recent trials of Indians for Sedition and for Murder his services  
were not solicited.

Dr. Fischer resides at 33 Route Vallon, French Concession  
and is reputed to be wealthy.

A. Robertson  
D. I.

W. B. I.

24 16:29.  
Short letter & copy  
to Col Halland Don't Confidential  
2/6. TCA



SECRET

H. B. M. Consulate-General,  
Shanghai.

20th. May, 1929.

My dear Aiers,

The Authorities in India suggest that the well-known local lawyer Dr. O. Fischer who applied to H.B.M Supreme Court for permission to defend the accused in the case of the murder of Harcharan Singh, may be identical with an Austrian lawyer and merchant named Dr. O. Fischer who, according to <sup>a</sup>the statement made early in 1917 in connection with Indian sedition in the Far East, was one of the principal men who were engaged in plots against India at that time. I should be glad to have your views on this suggestion and to have a detailed report on the Italian lawyer, Dr. O. Fischer, if this can be compiled without giving your staff a great deal of trouble. The Authorities in India also suggest that Dr. O. Fischer may now be an Italian citizen owing to the transfer after the war of a portion of Austrian territory to Italy.

Yours sincerely,

*C. H. Hall*

R. C. Aiers, Esq.,  
Assistant Commissioner of Police,  
Criminal Investigation Department,  
Shanghai Municipal Police,  
SHANGHAI.

*to (Pol)  
for Sec.  
See German  
repatriation  
files in  
4/5  
21.5.29*

# Shanghai Municipal Police

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE
C. I. D. REGISTRY
I. O. 9482
Date 11/11/28

CENTRAL I. S. Station.

October 31, 1928.

REPORT ON Arrival of Dr. Fisher.

Made by P.C.S. MAKAROFF.

Forwarded by

*J. Guions A.C.P.*

Dr. E. Fischer returned to Shanghai from  
Harbin on October 30, 1928, per s.s. "Sakaki Maru".

*J. Makaroff*  
P.C.S.

*lu*

*Copy to H.B.M. Consul  
Col. Halland  
Capt. Sheller  
Sgt. Goldenith*

*H.R.*

*[Signature]*

*2/11/28*  
*[Signature]*





June 18, 8

Dear

With reference to the attached copy of a newspaper article regarding Dr. E. Fischer, information has been received that he has departed on a diplomatic mission for Moscow. Prior to his leaving Shanghai he negotiated with the Nationalist authorities on behalf of the Soviet Government regarding the possibility of Chinese ports being opened to vessels of the Soviet Mercantile Fleet and his visit to Moscow is to report the result of his work and if possible to bring about a successful conclusion of the issue.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to be the letters "he".

Letters sent to :-

W.C. Cassels, Esq., H.B.M. Consulate General

Lieut. Col. G.H.R. Halland, O.B.E., North China Command.

Lieut. F. Goldsmith, North China Command.

(C.I.D.) Office Notes

June 18, 1928.

D. &amp; J.

With reference to the attached newspaper cutting <sup>copy of a</sup> regarding Dr. O. Fischer information has been received that he has departed on a diplomatic mission to Moscow. Prior to his leaving Shanghai he negotiated with the Nationalist authorities on behalf of the Soviet Government regarding the possibility of Chinese ports being opened to vessels of the Soviet Mercantile Fleet and his visit to Moscow is to report the result of his work and if possible to bring about a successful conclusion of the issue.

Ady.  
Robertson  
D.J.

Ref to above to authorities  
concerned

D.S.

8/28/28